We have lived our whole lives in and around these seas. Do you remember when you played in the waters as a child, held your breath to go deep under the ocean to catch an octopus?

Do you remember the magic of the first time you looked under the blue of the water and saw the oranges, reds, yellows and greens of the life inside your reef and lagoon?

And yet there are so many more wondrous creatures in the sea that we don't even know about, rarely see, never think about. Today in this exhibition we invite you on *a journey of rediscovery* - a journey to listen to and share stories of the sea.

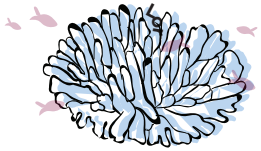
Island Pride

We live in an incredibly complex and diverse ecosystem, boasting of more than 800 species of fish alone that depend on the corals. Lakshadweep is the oldest in a chain of atolls that stretches south through Maldives till Chagos.

Fish, mammals and other creatures use our waters as the passage to go to places as far as Africa. But what is perhaps most remarkable about Lakshadweep is how closely humans have lived with nature, supporting some of the highest densities of both people and animals in the same small area.

Coral Forms & Growth

Corals form the base of our reef, the wall that protects our islands from waves and storms. **In Lakshadweep, there are more than 100 species of coral.** Each of these plays important roles in the ecosystem. While branching corals are homes for many baby fish, the large boulders are great hiding places for large fish like groupers and sharks.



CORYMBOSE CORAL
Nursery for baby fish

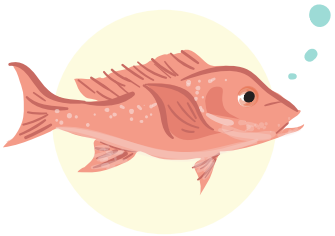
MASSIVE CORAL
Hiding for large fish

Come explore with us the different forms of coral and their importance.

Functions of Fish

Every creature inside the ocean plays its own role in the ecosystem, maintaining balance through complex threads. **Only by understanding the roles of these different creatures can we begin to understand the system.**

Fish like the tang and surgeonfish eat algae that prevent baby coral from finding clean spaces to live. And predators like wrasses and triggerfish keep the population of harmful starfish and urchins under control.



RED SNAPPER
Piscivore

They eat other fish such as

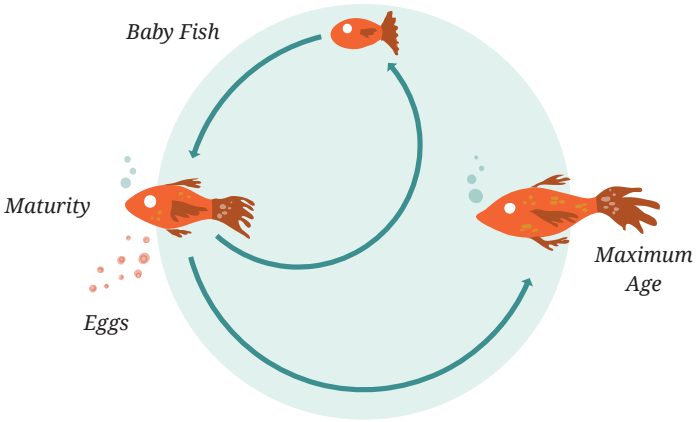
Invertivores | Corallivores | Herbivores

Play with us to find out who eats who and why it is important

Lifecycle of Fish

Different fish take different amounts of time to grow and start laying eggs. Some fish, like tuna, grow and lay eggs very fast. Other fish, like groupers, take much longer to start laying eggs.

We need to keep in mind how long different fish take to lay eggs and continue their lifecycle before we catch or eat them.



Take a few seconds to watch our animation to learn to be a more responsible consumer or fisherman.

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STORIES OF THE SEA

A Journey Through The Magical World Below The Ocean

Designed By

nature conservation foundation